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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
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| 10/706,915 | 11/14/2003 | Tsutomu Okabe | 245156US3CIP 7664 | | |
| 22850 | 7590 02/28/2006 | | EXAMINER | | |
| OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. | | | MOORE, KARLA A | | |
| ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | , | | 1763 | | |

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief

| Application No. | Applicant(s) | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--|--|
| 10/706,915 | OKABE ET AL. | | |
| Examiner | Art Unit | | |
| Karla Moore | 1763 | | |

| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — The REPLY FILED 16 February 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. 1. ■ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other avidence, which places the application in condition for allowance: (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal feet) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.134. The reply must be filed within one of the following the periods: The period of the prior of the period of the p | | Karla Moore | 1763 | |
|--|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. ☑ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one or the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other diddrence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 4.1.31; or a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.1.14. The reply must be filed within one of the follow imperiods: a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.1.14. The reply must be filed within one of the follow imperiods: The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection. Examiner Note: if box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FIRST TEPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MEPE 796.07(f). Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension and the convergencing and the second of the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension and the convergencing amount of the fee. The appropriate extension and the convergencing amount of the fee. The appropriate extension and the convergency in the convergence of the final rejection, even if timely final replection and the convergence of the final rejection and the convergence of the final replection and the final | The MAILING DATE of this communication appe | ars on the cover sheet with the o | correspondence add | ress |
| this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavil, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.13 (-) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following periods: a) \(\text{The period for reply expires 3} \) months from the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection. The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection. Examiner Note: (1) to x its checked, check either box (3) or (0). ONLY CHECK BOX (0) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTH-50 or THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTH-50 OF THE FIRST REPLE WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTH-50 OF THE | THE REPLY FILED 16 February 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS | APPLICATION IN CONDITION FO | R ALLOWANCE. | |
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| 2. | have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of ex under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the set set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b) | tension and the corresponding amount shortened statutory period for reply orig r than three months after the mailing da | of the fee. The appropri | ate extension fee ce action; or (2) a |
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| (c) | (a) They raise new issues that would require further co | nsideration and/or search (see NO | | |
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| 4. | | | ected claims. | |
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| non-allowable claim(s). For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended. The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows: Claim(s) allowed: Claim(s) objected to: Claim(s) objected to: Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE B. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary awas not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e). D. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1). D. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached. REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER 11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet. 12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s) | | | time also file al accessor also a | |
| 7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) | | lowable il submitted in a separate, | umely filed amendme | int canceling the |
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| 3. ☐ Other: | See Continuation Sheet. | • | | ice because: |
| Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1763 23 February 2006 | | (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper N | Karla Moore Patent Examiner, A | rt Unit 1763 |

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-303 (Rev. 7-05)

Continuation Sheet (PTO-303)

Application No. 10/706,915

Continuation of 3. NOTE:

As described in the previous office action, Otaguro discloses a door provided at an interface where a clean box and a minienvironment/clean room meet. Otaguro discloses that the door is means for providing isolation between the clean box and the minienvironment. The door comprises projections at the outer shape of the door, which are a mechanism for providing the isolation. However,
the projections are not disclosed as protruding from the outer shape of the door. Otaguro further teach that it is desirable to maintain a
directional gas flow outwards from the mini-environment/clean room and towards the clean box for maintaining cleanliness (paragraph 48).
Admittedly, in Otaguro, the flow of air is maintained by a gap provided elsewhere on the interface, not directly at a contact surface of the
door. Tokunaga teach providing a gap using outwardly extending projections at a sealing surface of a door of a clean box and a minienvironment/clean room. The projections are provided for the purpose of maintaining a desirable air flow pattern (i.e. a directional flow
like that disclosed in Otaguro, from the mini-environment/clean room and towards a clean box). In Otaguro, the door is the sealing
surface. If one were to modify the apparatus of Otaguro according to the the teachings of Tokunaga, where projections are provided at a
sealing surface, one would provide projections at the door, or its complimentary sealing surface. Regarding this complimentary sealing
surface, it would be exceedingly obvious and clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that one could provide the projections on either of the
door or the complimatary sealing surface, as the distance between the two structures needed to establish the desired gas flow pattern,
would be maintained either way.

Examiner continues to maintain the position that the claimed invention is obvious over the combined disclosures of Otaguro and Tokunaga.